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Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Programme 10
Environment

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

2. Regulation 4.13 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as necessary to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 proposed in the annex are as follows: modification of the overall orientation (para. 10.3) and of subprogramme 4 (paras. 10.20-10.22). The revisions include reference to the Millennium Declaration, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. The negotiations on the two conventions have been finalized, and they are open for signature and ratification.

4. The proposed revisions will be submitted to the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme.

5. The medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000 and issued as document A/55/6/Rev.1. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in documents A/56/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 (Introduction, sects. 1-33 and Income sects. 1-3). It was revised and approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/253 and 56/254 of 24 December 2001.

6. In the proposed revisions, new text to be inserted appears in boldface type, and text to be deleted appears in strikeout type. An explanation of the changes is provided in italic type within brackets.

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Annex

Proposed revisions to programme 10, Environment

Overall orientation

10.3 Building on and consistent with the Nairobi Declaration and the decisions of the Governing Council adopted at its twentieth session, the overall strategy of UNEP for achieving the programme's objectives is broken down into seven functional, interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. The main elements of the overall strategy include: (a) filling the information and knowledge gap on critical environmental issues through more comprehensive assessments; (b) identifying and further developing the use of appropriate integrated policy measures in tackling the root causes of major environmental concerns; and (c) mobilizing action for better integration of international action to improve the environment, particularly in relation to regional and multilateral agreements, as well as United Nations system-wide collaborative arrangements. **The strategy reflects all the elements relating to UNEP contained in General Assembly resolutions 55/2 on the Millennium Declaration and 56/95 on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.** [*changed to reflect updated mandates*]

Subprogramme 4
Technology, industry and economics

Strategy

10.20 More specifically, the strategy will include: (a) promoting the understanding and knowledge of environmental issues related to industrial and urban development, trade and the economy, sustainable consumption patterns, use of natural resources (particularly energy and water) and chemicals, as well as alternative projects; (b) building capacity through a participatory "learn-by-doing" approach to addressing countries' economic, environmental and social needs according to national and regional development priorities; (c) developing consensus on policies and tools needed to respond to the problems identified, such as the ~~new~~ Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the ~~future legally binding international instrument on persistent organic pollutants~~, **Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,** codes of practice, economic instruments and so on; (d) through information exchange, technology transfer and capacity-building, providing technical support to the chemicals agenda and facilitating the effective and integrated implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, with a particular focus on the UNEP-administered conventions, the Rotterdam Convention (jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and the ~~future persistent organic pollutants convention~~ **Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**; (e) facilitating the widespread transfer on favourable terms, adoption and use of technology in urban areas, freshwater basins and industry sectors in developing countries and countries with economies in transition; (f) assisting countries and industries in the production of cleaner and safer methods of production and the development of more sustainable products and services; (g) promoting practical and cost-effective approaches to the assessment of trade policies and to the implementation of environmentally sustainable trade policies; (h) demonstrating, in association with other partners active at the local level, the effectiveness of policies and tools suggested, while involving national experts in the formulation and implementation of UNEP-sponsored projects; and (i) making full use of the complementarity between the work of UNEP and the activities carried out by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the field of trade and environment, aiming at strengthening coherence in the rules and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the WTO agreements. [*changed to update the reference to the two conventions, which have been opened for signature and ratification*]

Expected accomplishments

10.21 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) **the enhanced capacity of countries to assess and adopt environmentally sound technologies and practices and** greater worldwide use of technologies, products and services that are cleaner and safer; (b) **the widespread introduction and** ~~more efficient~~ use of **renewable** energy and **technologies and other raw materials at the national level** ~~water~~; (c) **the wider**

adoption of open policies by industry towards reporting on their natural resource use and their environmental and social performance, including the gender dimension ~~reduced pollution and risks for human beings and their environments~~; (d) **trade and investment policies that reflect the integration of** ~~identification of means of minimizing the adverse~~ environmental ~~impacts of economic policy, especially trade liberalization and investment policies~~ **considerations**; (e) **a change in the behaviour of decision makers in national government, regional and local authorities, finance and industry, as well as the public at large, towards sustainable production and consumption patterns** ~~identification of win-win situations to balance concurrent economic and environmental gains~~; and (f) adherence to the goals of the International Declaration on Cleaner Production. [*changed to align with table 12.14 of the budget, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253*]

Indicators of achievement

10.22 The indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of countries, organizations and industries adopting policies, regulations or codes that require cleaner and safer production practices, products and services; (b) the number of **countries making specific mention of** ~~cases in which~~ renewable energy ~~technologies are introduced and used in developing countries~~ **as an element of their national energy policy and strategy**; (c) the **number of companies using the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines to report on their** use **of natural resources and their** ~~by industry of energy audits as a component of overall cleaner production/~~environmental **and social performance, including the gender dimension** ~~management systems approaches~~; (d) the number of **Governments implementing policy tools for integrating environment and trade policies** ~~countries and industries commencing or strengthening programmes on awareness of and preparedness for emergencies at the local level or the equivalent and the number of companies adopting environmental management systems~~; (e) **an increased proportion of** ~~the number of environmentally responsible investment patterns employed by the~~ private sector **partners developing and using** ~~and the development and use of~~ environmental procedures and practices **leading to investment patterns that are considered environmentally sound**; (f) the number of **countries that have improved their capacity to assess and adopt sound technologies and practices as a result of** ~~partnership agreements developed and concluded with sectoral role players, accompanied by the expression by partners of confidence in UNEP or satisfaction in~~ UNEP **capacity-building activities** ~~services~~; ~~and~~ (g) the number of signatures to the International Declaration on Cleaner Production; **and (h) the number of signatures/ratifications to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**. [*changed to align with table 12.14 of the budget, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253, and to update reference to the two conventions, which have been opened for signature and ratification*]

Legislative mandates

Programme 10
Environment

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	**United Nations Millennium Declaration**
56/95	**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit**

Subprogramme 4
Technology, industry and economics

Governing Council decisions

~~19/13 B~~	~~Chemicals management: further measures to reduce the risks from a limited number of hazardous chemicals~~
~~19/13 C~~	~~Chemicals management: international action to protect human health and the environment through measures which will reduce and/or eliminate emissions and discharges of persistent organic pollutants, including the development of an international legally binding instrument~~
21/3	**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade**
21/4	**Convention for implementing international action on certain persistent organic pollutants**
~~20/23~~ **21/7**	Chemicals management